THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, May 19, 1800.

Intereſting Particulars relative to Japan, by M. Titſingh, late Ambaſſador to the Emperors of China and Japan.

IN the voyage to Bengal publiſhed by Charpentier, we meet with the agreeable intelligence, that a new, circumſtantial, and authentic account of Japan may be expected from the pen of Titſingh, who had been Governor of Chinſurah, a Dutch factory on the Ganges, which during the preſent war has fallen into the hands of the Engliſh; and afterwards reſided five years as Ambaſſador from the Dutch Eaſt India Company to the Emperor of Japan, with the chief men of which country he to this hour keeps up an epiſtolary correſpondence. Titſingh has for five years paſt been employed in writing a Political, Civil, Religious, Moral, and Literary Hiſtory of Japan; and, to render his work more intereſting, uſeful, and complete, he intends to ſpend yet ſome years more in the execution of his plan.

For this purpoſe he ſtill from time to time obtains all neceſſary information from the father-in-law of the reigning Emperor himſelf, with whom he regularly correſponds; and in this reſpect his work will be *unique*, and ſurpaſs the earlier labours of Kampher, whom he commends on account of his accuracy, and of Thunberg. The Engliſh in Calcutta offered Titſingh two lacks of rupees for his manuſcripts: but he magnanimouſly refuſed this offer, as he intends to make a preſent of it to his brother in Holland, and is determined that it ſhall be firſt printed in the Dutch language. He communicated indeed ſome extracts and ſingle fragments

to the Academy of Sciences at Paris; and that learned ſociety was inclined to cauſe them to be tranſlated and printed under their inſpection. But he thought the tranſlation was not ſufficiently faithful; or, what is more likely, he made uſe of this pretext, and declined this honour, that no earlier edition might appear before the Dutch one. For the above information we are indebted to the author of the Voyage to Bengal, a now deceaſed friend of Charpentier. From the ſame ſource are derived the following precurſive particulars relative to Japan, which the deceaſed, during his intercourſe with Titſingh, collected from his converſation, and communicated to his friend, the editor of the above-mentioned voyage.

The Japaneſe aſcribe a greater antiquity to the world than the Chineſe or any other people with whom we are acquainted. They compute by epochs. The preſent, which, compared with the preceding, is the ſhorteſt, commences 600 years before the birth of Chriſt, with their firſt *Daïri*, and reaches down to the preſent Emperor. The deceaſed friend of Charpentier had himſelf had in his hands a chronological table of Japan, beautifully printed on the largeſt folio; it ſeemed to have a great reſemblance to *Hénault's Abrégé de l' Hiſtoire Chronologique de France*, and even to deſcend to minuter details. Titſingh aſſured him that it would be difficult to make the method and arrangement of this chronology better and more ingenious.

The form of government in Japan is hierarchical. At the head of it is the Emperor; who, like his predeceſſors, unites in his perſon the ſpiritual and temporal power of the ſtate. He cannot, however, exerciſe his power in an arbitrary manner over the grandees, who, in different ſubordinate gradations, are ſubject to his dominion: on the contrary, he has cauſe to be afraid of them; for at the bottom the whole government of the ſtate is founded on a feudal conſtitution. The late Emperor, who died in 1785, with the view to gain an additional ſupport to his throne, endeavoured to attach to his intereſt the preſent Emperor's father-in-law, who governs in his name. This lord, being the richeſt and moſt powerful vaſſal of the empire, at firſt rejected all the offers and propoſals made to him, that he might not render himſelf ſuſpected to the other grandees: at laſt, however, he could not deny his conſent to the marriage of one of his daughters with a diſtant relative of the Emperor. Although this prince was far removed from the hope of ſucceeding to the throne, and even lived unknown in one of the provinces, and was educated at a diſtance

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from court; yet, by a ſingular fatality, it happened that the Emperor, who, in the year 1784, loſt the laſt of his five ſons, juſt as he was on the point of being married, nominated, by the prerogative veſted in him for that purpoſe, this ſame prince his ſucceſſor, in preference to his other relations. Soon after he actually aſcended the throne, his father-in-law directing the public affairs during the prince's minority.

In Japan wealth alone and excluſively confers all diſtinction and all power. The wealth of the grandees is eſtimated according to the revenues of the provinces which belong to them. The Emperor is poſſeſſor of ten of the richeſt and moſt extenſive provinces, and conſequently on this account alone, independent of his revenue as Emperor, the richeſt among the Japaneſe princes. The richeſt after him is his father-in-law, who has a yearly income of 120 millions of francs. The income of others amounts to 100, to 80, &c. millions. Our author found the names of about 60 ſuch rich land owners inſerted in the almanack of Japan. This almanack is publiſhed annually in four ſmall volumes 12mo. very neatly printed. It contains the names of the Emperor and his family, of the grandees and their families, of the perſons belonging to the courts of juſtice, of the officers of ſtate, and of the Emperor's ſervants. There are likewiſe in it ſome tolerable copper-plates, which generally repreſent the armorial-bearings of the grandees. After the name of each perſon inſerted in the liſt, the amount of his income is mentioned, from the greateſt ſum down to 10,000 *kopans*, but none lower than that number. But Titſingh aſſerts that the real income of each greatly ſurpaſſes the ſum annexed to the name in the almanack.

The Japaneſe, when they are not irritated, are the mildeſt and moſt courteous and, at the ſame time, the proudeſt people on earth. But if any of them be offended, nothing but the blood of the offender can ſatiate his revenge; or, if he has no opportunity of procuring that ſatisfaction, he kills himſelf. This revengeful ſpirit extends even to the women. They, as well as the men, conſtantly carry a dagger in their girdles, and, if neceſſary, uſe it with the greateſt coolneſs, when prompted by revenge, not only againſt their enemies, but likewiſe againſt their huſbands, their brothers, and even againſt themſelves.

The Japaneſe are better informed than the Chineſe. They are free from the fooliſh pride of the latter, which deſpiſes every thing that is foreign: they on the contrary contemn no kind of knowledge. The father-in-law of the reigning

Emperor, as likewiſe others of the grandees, ſpeak and write the Dutch language intelligibly, and even correctly: they likewiſe read a good many Dutch books.—The Japaneſe language is more eaſy to learn than the Chineſe; one may maſter it in two years. Titſingh, who perfectly underſtands it, aſſures us that the articles relative thereto in the *Encyclopédie* are full of errors. He aſſerts that men of learning among the Japaneſe underſtand and with facility learn the Chineſe language, whereas on the contrary, the moſt learned among the Chineſe are not even acquainted with the firſt elements of the language of their neareſt neighbours. However, it would ſeem that the Chineſe eſteem the Japaneſe above other nations, perhaps on account of their having many opinions and cuſtoms in common, which indicate the common origin of both nations, although in times far remote. Beſides, more than 300 years have elapſed ſince they have ceaſed to carry on war againſt each other, although the Japaneſe are a warlike nation. The arms of the latter are now directed only againſt the neighbouring Corea, which is partitioned among ſeveral kings, part of whom pay tribute to China, and the reſt to Japan. Our author is likewiſe of opinion that beſides the Curiles there are other iſlands, which lie nearer to Japan, and are of equal importance, with which they trade and ſometimes carry on war. This he was led to conjecture from Titſingh's endeavouring ſtudiouſly and with much art to evade every queſtion relative to the external relations of Japan, and the diſcoveries it might ſtill be poſſible to make in thoſe ſeas, eſpecially at the time when La Peroufe navigated thoſe parts. It even ſeemed to him as if Titſingh had awaited with apprehenſion and impatience the reſults of that voyage of diſcovery.

The Jeſuit miſſionaries from Portugal cauſed in 1616, and eſpecially in 1622, a revolution, the conſequence of which was that all intercourſe with foreigners was reſtricted to one port, and the viſiting of foreign countries forbidden under the pain of death. Since that time, the Chriſtians have been dreadfully perſecuted, and in 1666 a very ſevere inquiſitorial-court was inſtituted againſt them.

Since this revolution, the Japaneſe are under the pain of death forbidden ſingly to leave their native country. Titſingh related, that, notwithſtanding the great influence he enjoyed at court, he had the greateſt difficulty to obtain a pardon for and ſave the lives of ſome Japaneſe fiſhermen, who had been driven by a ſtorm on a foreign coaſt, and were by the Dutch liberated from ſlavery, and brought back again to Japan.

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This ſeverity is carried ſtill farther againſt ſuch fiſhermen as are driven to Kamtſchatka or the ſea of Ochotzk. Certain death awaits them as ſoon as it is known they have any intercourſe with the Ruſſians. This barbarous law derives its origin from a very ancient prophecy which has ſpread all over Japan, viz. "That the empire would one day be conquered and ſubjugated by a *red-bearded* people." Now ſince the Ruſſians, by taking poſſeſſion of Kamtſchatka, have become neighbours of the Japaneſe, the interpreters of the prophecy have ſuppoſed that they are the people which is indicated by it.—But it is hoped that the law will be repealed under the government of the intelligent and enlightned father-in-law of the preſent Emperor.

The rich Japaneſe ſpend their lives in a continual round of enjoyments: but the pleaſures of the table they prefer to all others. At the entertainments which they mutually give to one another, they intoxicate themſelves with a fermented liquor of which they are exceſſively fond. When the fumes begin to aſcend into the head, and overpower their faculties, as much of a certain powder as will lie on the point of a knife, diſſolved in tea, is handed about. One or two cups of this liquor is ſufficent to diſpel the intoxication: but then the carouſing commences anew, and continues till the gueſts are again ſuccumb under the effects of ſuperſaturation.

(To be continued.)

An Account of the Origin and Progreſs of the Royal Inſtitution of Great-Britain.

THE plan was firſt projected by Count Rumford; and it would ſeem that for ſome years this active philanthropiſt and philoſopher had contemplated the practicability of the ſcheme, of which he had ſketched a rude outline in a correſpondence with another enlightened and benevolent character, Mr. Bernard, Treaſurer of the Foundling Hoſpital, a gentleman well known as an active member of the Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor.

The ſlowneſs with which improvements of any kind make their way into common uſe, and eſpecially ſuch improvements as are moſt calculated to be of general utility, had ſtrongly attracted the attention of the Count. The greateſt obſtacles to the improvement of the uſeful arts and manufactures, appeared to be the want of elementary information in them.

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They can move on in the beaten tract in which they have been inſtructed; but for want of a knowledge of the principles on which their reſpective arts depend, they can make no material improvement in them; whereas it was to be preſumed, that if the principles of mechanics and chemiſtry could be taught on an extenſive ſcale, ſo that the knowledge of them might be widely diffuſed, rapid improvements muſt follow.

One great object to be had in view, was therefore to teach by courſes of philoſophical lectures and experiments the principles of ſcience, and their application to the improvement of arts and manufactures, as well as the common conveniences of life. Another important object was, facilitating the general introduction of uſeful mechanical inventions and improvements. The beſt mode of attaining this end ſeemed to be, to have public rooms for the exhibition of all ſuch new mechanical inventions and improvements as might be thought worthy of the public notice, and more eſpecially ſuch contrivances as tend to increaſe the conveniences and comforts of life; to promote domeſtic œconomy, to improve taſte, and to advance uſeful induſtry. By procuring a collection of the completeſt working models, or conſtructions of the full ſize, of all ſuch mechanical inventions as were likely to be uſeful, formed on the moſt approved principles, and kept in actual uſe, it was to be preſumed, that the advantage to workmen, who would thus ſee what they were to imitate, would be great.

To complete this grand ſcheme, it was propoſed to publiſh frequently an account of uſeful diſcoveries; not only of thoſe which might be made by the inſtitution, and in this country, but in every part of the world. By theſe means, the benefits of the inſtitution would by no means be confined to the metropolis, but by a quick circulation of uſeful diſcoveries would extend its influence to the remoteſt corner of the Britiſh dominions, and to the whole world. Such is the plan, which, if it required boldneſs of ſpirit to conceive, required a ſtill more daring and enterpriſing mind to think of executing it.

About the beginning of the laſt year, the plan was mentioned among ſome friends, who immediately perceived the advantages which muſt attend it, and entered into its merits with ardour and enthuſiaſm. Theſe communicated it to their friends; and every one to whom it was mentioned, was eager to give it his ſupport; in a ſhort time it was countenanced by ſuch numbers, that it was thought adviſeable to

realize the idea, and give it "a local habitation and a name."

The firſt regular meeting was held at the houſe of the Preſident of the Royal Society, who has long been eminently diſtinguiſhed as the patron of ſcience, and the promoter of uſeful inventions. Here it received a regular form; a conſiderable ſum of money was ſubſcribed, and a plan drawn up, and directed to be publiſhed.

This was no ſooner done, than ſubſcribers flocked in from all quarters, and the founders perceived that it would ſoon be in their power to conduct their favourite ſcheme on an extenſive ſcale; and as their funds were already reſpectable, they purchaſed an extenſive building in Albermarle Street, which they fitted up ſo as to anſwer the preſent purpoſe. It was neceſſary, however, that the ſociety ſhould be incorporated, not only that their property might be ſecure, but that the laws which might be framed for the government of the inſtitution might be properly enforced. For this purpoſe a petition was preſented to the King, praying that he would grant them a charter of incorporation, with certain rights and privileges, as is uſual in ſuch caſes. To this he was not only graciouſly pleaſed to aſſent, but deſired he might be conſidered as the patron of the eſtabliſhment, and that it might be called the Royal Inſtitution. By this charter, which is dated the 30th of January of the preſent year, the members of the Inſtitution are conſtituted a body politic and corporate, by the name of "The Royal Inſtitution of Great Britain."

The government of the inſtitution is veſted in a preſident and nine managers. The members of the ſociety conſiſt in three claſſes. 1. Proprietors; 2. Members or ſubſcribers for life; 3. Annual Subſcribers.

A proprietor is a hereditary governor of the inſtitution, and has a perpetual transferable ſhare in the houſe of the inſtitution, and in all the property belonging to it; has a voice in the election of managers and viſitors, and has two transferable tickets of admiſſion into the eſtabliſhment, and to all the philoſophical lectures and experiments.

A ſubſcriber for life has one ticket (not transferable) of admiſſion into the eſtabliſhments, and to all the lectures and experiments. The ſame privilege is enjoyed by an annual ſubſcriber during the year of his ſubſcription.

The nine managers are choſen by and from the proprietors by ballot; three of them for three years, three for two years, and three for one year, capable, however, of being re-elected. Beſides the managers, there is a committee of viſi-

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tors, to aſſiſt in framing the bye-laws, to inſpect the inſtitution annually in detail, and to examine and audit the accounts of the receipts and diſburſements of the inſtitution; this committee is compoſed alſo of nine perſons, choſen by and from the proprietors of the inſtitution; three for three years, three for two years, and three for one year, capable of being re-elected. The preſident has the privilege of nominating two of the managers as vice-preſidents; a treaſurer and a ſecretary are choſen by the managers from among the proprietors.

The following are the preſent officers of the inſtitution. The Earl of Winchelſea, Preſident; the Earl of Morton, the Earl of Egremont, and the Right Hon. Sir Joſeph Banks, Vice-Preſidents; the Earl of Beſsborough, Count Rumford, and Richard Clark, eſq. Chamberlain of the City of London, Managers for three years; the Earl of Egremont, Sir Joſeph Banks, and Richard Joſeph Sulivan, Eſq. Managers for two years; the Earl of Morton, the Right Hon. Thomas Pelham, and Sir John Cox Hippeſley, Bart. Managers for one year; the viſitors are, the Duke of Bridgewater, the Biſhop of Durham, and Thomas Bernard, Eſq. for three years; Lord Palmerſton, Lord Teignmouth, and Rowland Burdon, Eſq. for two years; Earl Spencer, Lord Somerville, and Samuel Thornton, Eſq. for one year; the Rev. Dr. Glaſſe is Secretary, and Thomas Bernard, Eſq. Treaſurer.

THE SYLPH;

OR,

THE HISTORY OF SOPHIA MERTON.

(Continued from Page 365.)

IN proportion as Granger became a conſtant attendant on Miſs Sandford, ſhe was obſerved to be ſomewhat leſs anxious about the attention of others; and ſome glaring particulars in her dreſs, became alſo more moderate. The ſmallneſs of Granger's fortune, added to his having ſerved in the army, precluded the poſſibility of his making propoſals in form to ſuch a man as Mr. Sandford. But an uncle of Louiſa's happening to viſit her father, gave the lovers that opportunity of ſounding the old gentleman's ſentiments, which they might otherwiſe have looked for in vain.

This brother of Mr. Sandford's was more like the reſt of the world, and ſomewhat of a reaſonable man; he conſidered

what the conduct of his niece had been, and ſtill continued to be; and was of opinion that to marry her to the firſt gentleman of reſpectability who would take her, was the beſt thing the family could do, overlooking all circumſtances of fortune, as her father was rich enough to provide for her. How to bring matters about with Mr. Sandford was the queſtion, who could not, with all his brother's efforts, be brought to comprehend, that Louiſa had, in the ſmalleſt degree, forfeited her right of expecting to marry equal to all his partiality originally led him to hope; and an abſolute negative was given to Granger's propoſals.

Louiſa ſtill perſevered in her uſual courſe, and at length ſhe was ſometimes miſtaken by libertine men, who were ſtrangers, for one of thoſe unhappy females who make a traffic of their perſons, and accoſted by them in the public walks, without the leaſt ceremony or introduction. Her female friends were now obliged to relinquiſh her ſociety; and her encouraging a very vulgar man, (who was alſo married,) to become her conſtant companion, when out of her father's ſight, taking with him retired walks, and being ſeen with him at improper hours, compleated the deſtruction of her good name.

The common people, much more addicted to ſcandal of late years than their betters, retailed a number of diſgaceful anecdotes reſpecting her; and the ladies of Mellford, and its vicinity, although they did not believe the voice of ſcandal, found it impoſſible to aſſociate with this young woman; who, but for her ſingular folly, might have been of the very firſt conſideration in their parties.

Thus paſſed the youth of Louiſa Sandford, a bye word, and a warning to all who knew her; who when ſhe entered life, from her family, fortune, and perſonal ſmartneſs, might have looked forward to conſideration, and much reſpectability, in the county which gave her birth. Years rolled on years away, long after the ſcenes of this hiſtory had vaniſhed, and Louiſa attained her thirty-ſixth year, much with the ſame ſort of character ſhe eſtabliſhed at twenty, when the death of her father put her in poſſeſſion of a handſome fortune, and ſhe very ſoon after gave her hand to a young ſubaltern, belonging to a regiment then quartered in Mellford, to whom a good fortune was a great prize when a wife, not yet old or ugly, was the only condition annexed to it.

The ſylph having given his fair pupils theſe foregoing anecdotes of Louiſa Sandford, according to his former pro-

miſe, will now reſume the thread of his hiſtory, and turn their attention towards his intereſting ward.

A TRIO OF LOVERS.

It happened one evening, before the diſmiſſal of Edwin was generally known in the circles of Mellford, that Sophia met her old admirer, Everard, at a ball: Upon her being ſuppoſed engaged to Edwin, this gentleman had, in part, withdrawn his particular attentions, but not totally ſo, not conſidering his cauſe quite hopeleſs. My ward did not not dance this evening, and was in ſomewhat of a penſive mood. Everard was dancing, and affected to pay much attention to his partner; but a few penſively coquetiſh ſmiles ſoon fixed him to the elbow of Sophia, as much as politeneſs to the lady he danced with would permit. His partner, towards the concluſion of the evening, declined ſtanding up any more, and he found himſelf at liberty to devote his whole converſation to my ward. The lady ſhe accompanied to the ball was engaged in dancing, and he had every opportunity he could wiſh of addreſſing to her hints of his admiration and his love.

Sophia praiſed the fine figure of a young heireſs who was preſent, and who drew much attention from the company; this gave Everard an opportunity to pay her an elegant compliment, for with an air and tone of tenderneſs and regret he replied, "He was extremely ſorry to differ from her in opinion, but the choice of Mr. Edwin appeared in his eyes ſo very ſuperior, that he could not poſſibly admire the lady in queſtion." There was great addreſs in this compliment; it anſwered the double purpoſe of hinting the light in which he beheld Sophia, and of drawing from her an intimation that Edwin was nothing now to her but a perſon whom ſhe wiſhed very well as a friend. This avowal my ward judged to be indiſpenſable, whenever he was mentioned to her as a lover. From this evening the aſſiduous attention of Everard to Miſs Merton became more conſtant than ever; he very frequently danced with her at the aſſemblies, and ſeemed to ſeize with avidity every opportunity of being near her. The attachment he evinced for my ward, baniſhed by degrees from her mind all reſentment for his former fooliſh airs; but ſhe had not the leaſt idea of giving him her hand, and would moſt candidly have told him ſo, had he choſen to be ſufficiently explicit to authoriſe her making ſuch an anſwer.

Everard probably had hopes that delay might be propitious to his cauſe, and forbore to take the many opportunities afforded

afforded him for an expreſs declaration, until freſh obſtacles were thrown in his way by the return of the grave and formal Maxfield to the train of Sophia. This gentleman, although he had withdrawn his attention from my ward in ſo very ſingular a manner, could not behold Edwin received as an accepted lover, without great anxiety of mind. His connections with the friends of Miſs Merton gave him an opportunity of gaining the earlieſt intelligence relating to that engagement's being broken off; and after great perturbation of ſpirits, and many a combat between judgment and love, the latter won the victory, and Maxfield once more paid moſt aſſiduous court to Sophia; who on her part, to the vexation both of poor Everard, and her guardian genius, gave him more encouragement than from dignity of mind, and a recollection of the paſt, ſhe ought to have done, which was partly owing to the great air of reſpect which generally marked his manners.

Maxfield became every day more and more explicit, and Sophia began once more to deliberate on what anſwer ſhe ſhould give his expected declaration. Maxfield often called at the houſe where Miſs Merton reſided, and one afternoon took an opportunity of expreſſing earneſtly his regard and his love; and requeſting if ſhe could give him hopes of gaining her affections, to permit him to explain to the lady under whoſe care ſhe was placed, his fortune, &c. &c. Sophia's reply was not unfavourable, and he accordingly waited on this lady a day or two after, and talked over with her matters of a pecuniary nature, as he afterwards did with Sophia herſelf: Various circumſtances, which required further conſideration, were ſpoken of, and he took a reſpectful leave, ſaying to the lady with whom he reſided, that he hoped and believed every thing would be ſettled to the ſatisfaction of all parties.

Will my fair readers credit the faithful ſylph when he informs them, that day after day paſſed on, and neither Sophia or her guardians heard or ſaw any thing of Maxfield? and his reſiding in Mellford put it out of doubt that his abſence was intentional. Probably, on more maturely conſidering circumſtances of fortune, &c. he had diſcovered more difficulties than he had at firſt forſeen, or the great diſparity of years had ſtrongly occurred once more to his affrighted imagination. Be that as it might, he was determined to tear himſelf at all events from the faſcinations of Sophia Merton. Undoubtedly his manner of withdrawing his addreſſes was affronting in a very high degree; and as ſuch was felt by my

ward, whoſe boſom ſwelled with anger, not without much ſelf reproach, for having ever encouraged Maxfield to renew his addreſſes. In the midſt of theſe vexatious feelings my ward received an invitation to a rout, where ſhe was certain of meeting her formal lover, if he appeared any where; this invitation ſhe determined to accept, partly from curioſity, to obſerve his behaviour, and partly to convince him ſhe could ſee him with compoſure.

According to her expectation he was preſent, and on her entrance, approached to pay his compliments with a perturbation of air and manner difficult to be deſcribed. He ſcarcely left her ſide the whole evening, but did not utter twenty words to her or any other perſon, while his fierce countenance wore an expreſſion which bordered on diſtraction. The company preſent, who had been accuſtomed to ſee him ſhew his partiality for my ward in a great many ſingular ways, ſmiled on each other, and took no further notice. Anger and vexation diſcompoſed the mind of Sophia, and it was with ſome difficulty her faithful ſylph ſupported her ſpirits through the evening.

When the party broke up, Maxfield attended Sophia to her own door, but confuſed and diſtracted half ſentences formed the whole of his converſation.

This ſtrange conduct of Maxfield continued through ſeveral interviews; he ſometimes joined Sophia in her walks with her friend Lucy, accompanied her to her own habitation, would ſit gazing at her in ſilence for a conſiderable time, and then make his bow, and depart in evident embarraſſment and perturbation. Nothing but the miſery pourtrayed in Maxfield's behaviour could have induced Sophia to treat him with civility. She was reſerved and polite, and her faithful ſylph watched with anxiety every emotion of her mind. A new year commenced in the midſt of theſe embarraſſments, and the careful Auri beheld with pleaſure how greatly the intereſting Sophia had improved under his guidance. In a ſhort time Maxfield's manner, when he met my ward, became more compoſed; but no explanation was offered, either to her or the lady with whom ſhe reſided, who was extremely diſpleaſed at ſuch ſtrange behaviour. Sophia, of courſe, now conſidered herſelf as totally diſengaged, and reſolved never more to receive Maxfield's addreſſes, however he might in future wiſh to renew them.

(To be concluded in our next.)

A Deſcrip-

A Deſcription of Clovelly and Lundy Iſland in Devonſhire.

IN the ſummer of 1793, being on a tour in the weſt of England with ſome friends, we croſſed the country from Exmouth to the northern part of Devonſhire, and came to a ſmall fiſhing-town, of an extraordinary appearance, called Clovelly, ſtanding in Bideford Bay, not far from Hartland Point, in the Briſtol Channel. This curious place conſiſts of about 70 or 80 houſes, built on the ſide of a rock, at the bottom of which is a pier capable of holding about fifty veſſels. It, however, has ſeldom any of a larger ſize than ſmall fiſhing boats or ſloops. The houſes ſtand very irregularly, and many of them in a dangerous ſituation, the rocks above impending over them in a moſt terrific manner, and thoſe on which they are built overhanging the ſea ſo frightfully as to make one apprehenſive of their giving way every moment. Some ſuch accidents we found had happened, but as the people were generally warned beforehand, no lives were loſt.

This place is famous for excellent fiſh, particularly cod and herrings, both of which are ſaid to be the beſt in the Channel. Juſt above the town is a large modern houſe, belonging to Sir James Hamlyn, Bart. Member of Parliament for Carmarthenſhire. The former manſion, we underſtood, had been burnt down about three years before. The grounds about it were romantic and well wooded. The view was beautiful; for as the country here is extremely broken, you have all the fine varieties of hill and valley. On the left is the bold promontory of Hartland Point, called by Ptolemy *Herculis Promontorium;* on the left, appears the beautiful and capacious bay belonging to the port of Bideford, beyond which is ſeen the high land of Exmoor. In front of the houſe is the Briſtol Channel, and, in a clear day, may be plainly diſcerned the coaſt of Wales.

As the iſland of Lundy lies in this Channel, we had the curioſity to take a trip thither, and accordingly hired a boat, which in a few hours brought us to its rocky ſhore. After ſome difficulty, ariſing from the violence of the ſurf, we made a landing, and clambered up the rocks, till we reached a narrow defile, where only one perſon could paſs at a time. This led us to the top of the iſland, the view from which amply repaid us for the trouble we had undergone. This iſland is five miles long and about two broad. The ſoil on

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the ſouthern part is good, and produces wheat, but not in abundance. There are two houſes in this part, inhabited by one family, which farms the iſland of the preſent proprietor, John Cleveland, Eſq. for 40l. per annum. This the people are enabled to raiſe, by catching the rabbits, of which there are thouſands in the iſland, and killing the ſea-fowl, which are alſo numerous. The ſkins and the feathers they convey either to England or Wales, where they turn to a good account. They alſo at times are enabled to carry corn to the market, but this is not frequent.

This place was formerly a great reſort for ſmugglers; and about fifty years ago, Mr. Benſon, an eminent merchant near Bideford, and Member of Parliament for Barnſtaple, owned it, and carried on a large contraband trade by its means. He was outlawed for theſe practices, and one of his Captains was executed for ſetting fire to a veſſel near Lundy, in order to defraud the underwriters. Sir John Borlaſe Warren was afterwards the proprietor, and formed the deſign of coloniſing the iſland, but this deſign came to nothing.

The preſent inhabitants appeared very cheerful; and the principal of them, we found, had been a farmer in Devonſhire; but having failed in his circumſtances, he took this ſpot, and, as he ſaid himſelf, was in a fair way of retrieving his affairs. There were ſome cows and a bull on the iſland, ſeveral ſheep, and a ſingle horſe. Graſs was plentiful; and in the garden there was a great variety of flowers; but what ſtruck me moſt, was to ſee a large myrtle growing openly without any ſhelter. This, in fact, was the only tree on the iſland; but there were ſeveral ſhrubs.

There are ſome fine ſprings of clear water, which were never known to fail. At the northern extremity of the iſland is a pyramidical rock, detached from the ſhore, which is called Rat Iſland, from its being tenanted by immenſe numbers of thoſe animals.

On looking into a deſcription of Devonſhire, by Triſtram Riſdon, I found the following hiſtorical account of this ſingular place:—

"In the reign of Henry III. one William Moriſcoe conſpiring the death of that Monarch, confederated with a knight of the court to murder him in his chamber, by an inlet in the window; but it chanced that the King lay elſewhere that night, whereupon the villain fought in other places and chambers, with his knife drawn, and found Margaret Byſſet, one of the Queen's maids, late up and reading, who hereat being affrighted, ſhrieked out, and awakened ſome of the

King's guard, who coming up, laid hands upon him, and after ſome impriſonment, he was drawn in pieces with horſes at Coventry; whereupon Moriſcoe fled to this iſland, and ſtrongly fortified, and became a pirate, doing much damage to the coaſt; but at laſt he was ſurpriſed, and with ſixteen of his companions executed."

"Formerly (ſays the ſame author,) this iſland had governors, for Sir Ralph Willington had the cuſtody thereof committed to him, and after he was diſcharged, it was committed to Humphrey de Bohun."

We ſaw the ruins of an old chapel, and alſo of a fort, which were evidently of great antiquity.

Though the iſland is nearer to Wales than to England, it yet belongs to the hundred of Braunton, in the county of Devon.

W.

Sketch of the Life of the late Dr. Glynn Clobery.

THIS gentleman was born Auguſt 5, 1719, at Kelland, near Bodmin, in Cornwall, of an ancient and reſpectable family, and educated at Eton on the foundation; was admitted ſcholar of King's College, on the marriage of the late Provoſt, Dr. Sumner, father of the preſent Provoſt, in 1737; B. A. 1741; M. A. 1745; M. D. 1758; and Fellow of the College of Phyſicians, 1763. He firſt practiſed phyſic at Richmond, and afterwards at Cambridge, where he continued till his death, February 8, 1800.

Dr. Glynn changed his name to Clobery in purſuance of the will of a relation, who bequeathed to him ſome property; but he was uſually addreſſed and known by his paternal name. His life was one uniform courſe of integrity and benevolence. Though for a long ſeries of years his practice was very extenſive, and his eſtabliſhment confined within the walls of a college, on a plan of moſt temperate and ſtrict œconomy, his effects ſcarcely exceeded 10,000l. including the bequeſt of his relation. In what manner he applied the principal part of his profeſſional emoluments is known to thoſe who were ſupported or aſſiſted by his beneficence. It was happy for thoſe around him, that it pleaſed Providence to extend his life to a very advanced period. His faculties were clear and vigorous within a very ſhort time of his deceaſe.

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During his illneſs, ſenſible of his gradual decay, he expreſſed nothing but reſignation and kindneſs, and expired without a ſtruggle or a groan. Agreeably to his repeated directions, he was interred in the vault of the chapel, in a private manner, between ten and eleven o'clock at night. On this occaſion, the members of the college only attended. But though, in this inſtance, it was the laudable duty of his executor to comply with his deſire, yet the voice of public gratitude required ſome more eminent mark of reſpect to be paid to ſo bright and unprecedented an example of public virtue.

The Vice-Chancellor, therefore, Dr. Manſel, actuated by his ſincere regard to the memory of his invaluable friend, communicated to the gentlemen of the univerſity his intention to accompany the friends of Dr. Glynn, in mourning, from Trinity College to St. Mary's church, on the following Sunday. The proceſſion conſiſted of the heads of houſes, the noblemen, and a numerous body of maſters of arts. On this occaſion, a ſermon was preached by Mr. Mitchell, fellow of King's College; who cloſed a plain and ſerious diſcourſe on the vanity of the preſent world, and the glories of the next, with an encomium on the deceaſed.

Dr. Glynn has bequeathed to his college 9000l. to his ſervant he left 500l. and to his executor, the Rev. Mr. Kerrich, of Magdalen College, 5000l. He was a character of long and diſtinguiſhed celebrity in the Univerſity of Cambridge, though the printed teſtimonies which the public poſſeſs of his literary merit are but few. He obtained, in 1757, the Seatonian prize for a poetical Eſſay on the Day of Judgment, which is one of the moſt excellent compoſitions produced by that inſtitution, and ranks with the ſublime and beautiful productions of Chriſtopher Smart on the ſame occaſion. This eſſay was printed at the univerſity-preſs, and afterwards in an octavo collection of theſe prize poems. Dr. Glynn intereſted himſelf much in the Chattertonian buſineſs, and is ſaid to have been ſome time confined with a violent cold, caught in viſiting the depoſitary of the Rowleian MSS. and to have contributed much information and aſſiſtance to Mr. Mathias in his eſſay on that ſubject.

A REFLECTION.

GIVE not way to violent paſſions. They have been the ſource of innumerable and irreparable evils.

AN ANECDOTE.

A Servant of the Rev. Rowland Hill died lately, and his maſter preached his funeral ſermon to a very numerous audience, in the courſe of which he mentioned the following anecdote, in terms ſomewhat ſimilar to theſe:

"Many perſons preſent were acquainted with the deceaſed, and had it in their power to obſerve his character and conduct. They can bear witneſs that I ſpeak the truth, when I aſſert, that, for a conſiderable number of years paſt, he has proved himſelf a perfectly ſober, honeſt, induſtrious, and religious man; faithfully performing, as far as lay in his power, the duties of his ſtation in life, and ſerving God with conſtancy and zeal. And yet this very man, this virtuous and pious man, was once a robber on the highway. More than thirty years ago, he ſtopped me on the public road, and demanded my money. Not at all intimidated, I argued with him, and aſked what could induce him to purſue ſo iniquitous and dangerous a courſe of life? "Sir, I have been a coachman, (ſaid he) but am now out of place; and not being able to get a character, can obtain no employment, and am therefore obliged to reſort to this means of gaining ſubſiſtence?" I deſired him to call upon me; he promiſed he would; and he kept his word. I talked further with him, and offered to take him into my ſervice. He conſented; and, ever ſince that period, he has ſerved me faithfully, and not me only, but he has faithfully ſerved his God. And inſtead of finiſhing his life in a public, ignominious manner, with a depraved and hardened mind, as he probably would ſoon have done, he has died in peace, rejoicing in hope, and prepared, we truſt, for the ſociety of juſt men made perfect. Till this day this extraordinary occurrence has been confined to his breaſt and mine: I have never mentioned it, even to my deareſt friend."

Anſwer, by T. Whicker, of Exeter, to W. Hoare's Rebus, inſerted February 17.

WITH wit fam'd CONGREVE deck'd the Engliſh ſtage,
And poignant ſatire ſhines in every page.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from Serjeant Aſh, of the Exminſter Volunteers; T. Jarvis, of Malborough; W. Harris, Jun. and P. Gove, of Exeter; and W. T. of Treeling.

Anſwer, by W. Harris, Jun. of Exeter, to R. Thomas's Rebus, inſerted February 24.

KRAY is the hero, Sir, I ween,
That in your rebus may be ſeen.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from T. Whicker, of Exeter,

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A QUESTION, *taken from the Ladies Diary for the preſent Year, and inſerted at the Requeſt of a Correſpondent.*

REQUIRED the length of that arch whoſe tangent is equal to three times its ſine, the radius of the circle being 10.

An ANAGRAM, *by T. Jarvis, of Malborough.*

IF you tranſpoſe an element,
A ſcripture name 'twill repreſent.

A CHARADE, *by G. Pearſe, of Bodmin.*

INGENIOUS youths, my firſt you'll find,
Is frequently in battle us'd;
My next is in the cellar found,
And its contents by few refus'd.

Connect the parts, and then you'll call
What's uſeful at the midnight ball.

A REBUS, *by R. Thomas, of Exeter.*

AN Engliſh hero firſt pray find;
An Engliſh bird then call to mind;
An Engliſh tree you'll then produce;
An Engliſh meaſure of great uſe;
An Engliſh title then define;
An Engliſh herb likewiſe combine:

Th' initials place in order true,
An Engliſh poet comes in view.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

ADDRESS *to a* FRIEND *in the* NAVY.

ACCEPT, dear Neill! theſe lines, in friendſhip penn'd,
Friendſhip! the only motive and the end!
Which bids the muſe in lofty viſion ſoar
With myſtick fate the future to explore.
While from effulgent hope a cheering ray
Conducts my ſteps along the mazy way.
Attend, great goddeſs! then, whoſe hidden page
Contains the hiſt'ry of our coming age.
In condeſcenſion kindly deign to hear
The ſubſtance of thy ſuppliant's humble prayer.
Say, is the late form'd band, affection's chain,
Securely link'd, unbroken to remain?

Shall mutual bleſſings mutual efforts crown,
And with content the ſun of life go down?
Or hapleſs, ſhall the hand of war deſtroy,
The tender bud of all our fancied joy?
Or, ſhall the warring element contend,
To mark life's period, and in ſhipwreck end?
Shall we, the ſport of winds and waves at laſt
Expire beneath the tropic's ſcorching blaſt?
Or, exil'd from our long lov'd native ſhore,
Behold the ſmiling face of joy no more?
More wretched ſtill, for who on earth can tell,
Shall we on Africk's ſhore in ſlav'ry dwell?

Sad is the lot at beſt of mortals here,
From conſtant apprehenſion, dread, and fear.
Let us with Pope, then, all things view aright,
And think, like him, "Whatever is, is right."
From hence fond hope relieves the tortur'd breaſt,
And ev'ry hydra form retires to reſt.
Pictures a fairer ſcene of livelier hue,
And points out happier proſpects to the view.

Perchance, when Albion's iſle, ſecure in peace,
Shall ſee her commerce flouriſh, arts increaſe,
The friends, return'd to Britain's happy land,
Shall walk with love and friendſhip hand in hand,
Bleſs'd with a fair and ever virtuous wife,
In joys hymeneal paſs the reſt of life.

Now let us bravely urge our country's cauſe,
Protect the monarch, and ſupport the laws;

Ready

Ready to crush the guilty ſons of France,
And ever England's glory to advance.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

HYMN.

"What ſhall I do to inherit eternal life?"

WHO aſks eternal life to find?
Mortal! firſt learn to rule thy mind;
To guard thy heart from every ſnare,
And make the laws of truth thy care.

Sincere thy ſoul; thy conduct juſt;
In Providence thy faith and truſt;
Sorrow, and ſin, and death deſpiſe,
To win this everlaſting prize.

Tho' virtue's path with ſteeps abounds,
And vice allures with flattering ſounds;
Heed not her tale; but keep the road
That leads to happineſs and God.

Taviſtock. JOHN COMMINS.

ELEGY *to the* MEMORY *of a* DEPARTED FRIEND.

SAY, penſive muſe! does ever genuine worth,
By death's cold hand extended on the bier;
Untimely torn from every tie on earth,
Claim, juſtly claim, the tribute of a tear?

Does he, whoſe gen'rous, undeſigning heart
Ne'er ſtoop'd ſubmiſs to flattery's ſervile ſway;
Who e'er thro' life perform'd an upright part,
Deſerve, poor recompence, a friendly lay?

Oh muſe beſtow! if claims like theſe are great,
The meed on W———, who in life's fair bloom,
Struck by the wing'd, unerring ſhaft of fate,
Became the tenant of an early tomb.

Hail, bleſſed ſoul! tho' dead to mortal ſight,
Immortal now thou liv'ſt in that bleſs'd place,
Where hoſts of ſaints, with white-rob'd ſons of light,
Chaunt hymns harmonious at the throne of grace.

Life's ſtorm ſubſided, thou haſt gain'd the ſhore,
Far, far remote from plaintive voice of woe;
Where heart-corroding cares perplex no more,
You taſte thoſe joys the world can never know.

Peace to thy duſt! much-valu'd friend, farewell!
While life's warm current circles round my frame;
Thy virtues oft ſhall faithful memory tell,
'Till memory's ſelf ſuſpends her wonted reign.